



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

re Application of:
Nagesh Mahanthappa

Serial No: 09/418,221

Filed: October 14, 1999

For: Neuroprotective Methods and
Reagents

Attorney Docket No. CIBT-P02-043

Art Unit: 1646

Examiner: M. Brannock

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
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REPLY UNDER 37 CFR 1.116

Sir:

This amendment is being filed in reply to the outstanding Office Action, mailed January 13, 2003, in connection with the above application. Please enter the following amendments:

IN THE CLAIMS:

For the convenience of the Examiner, all claims being examined, whether or not amended, are presented below.

Please cancel, without prejudice, claims 1, 20, 21, 23, 25 and 39.

3. **(Four Times Amended)** A method for the treatment of cerebral infarctions which comprises systemically administering to a patient in need thereof a *hedgehog* polypeptide in an amount effective to reduce cerebral infarct volume, wherein said *hedgehog* polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence that (a) binds to a naturally occurring *patched* receptor and

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